PATENT APPLICATION -

PROCESS-RELATED

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Robert HOFNER, et al.

Appln. No. Not yet assigned

Confirmation No.:Not yet assigned

Filed: January 02, 2002

DISTRIBUTING SYSTEM AND METHOD

INFORMATION IN A MULTIPLE NODE NETWORK

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

For:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Attorney Döcket. No. Q67498

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 2, 2002

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet	1	of	1

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Application Number	Not yet assigned	120
Confirmation Number	Not yet assigned	
Filing Date	January 02, 2002	TG
First Named Inventor	Robert HOFNER	- F6
Art Unit	Not yet assigned	S
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned	⊃ <u>(</u>
Attorney Docket Number	Q67498	7

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						Ĵ
		Document N	Document Number			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	e of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		US 5,842,173		11/24/1998	Strum, et al	
		US 5,968,122		10/19/1999	Schlosser, et al	
		US 6,175,931	Bl	1/16/2001	Hornung	
		US 6,205,841	Bl	3/20/2001	Heddaya, et al	·
		US 6,208,651	Bl	3/27/2001	Van Renesse, et al	_
		US				
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		US				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	
Initials*	No.1	Country Code ³	Number⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
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	OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶			
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
		

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.